

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 remain in this application. Claims 1 and 8 have been amended. The amendment to claim 8 is made to enter a typographical correction to the claim.

Applicants acknowledge the indication in the Office Action of claims 2-11 as being objected to, and it is understood that these claims contain allowable subject matter. In addition, applicants acknowledge the allowance of claims 12-21.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Clarke et al. (US 5,877,798). The Office Action states on page 2:

Clark discloses in column 6 line 60- column 7 line 5, a scanner in a housing with a scanning device, i.e. rotating mirror 116. Also disclosed are a pre-scan assembly including light source 110, lens 112 and pre-scan mirror 114, and a post-scan assembly including a post-scan fold mirror 120, a “start-of-scan” mirror 122 and a sensor 124. (It is noted that applicant recites the “end-of-scan location” in independent claim 1. However, in broad interpretation, the examiner can rightfully interpret “end-of-scan” location and “start-of-scan” location to be co-located.)

U.S. Patent No. 5,877,798 to Clarke et al. discloses a laser printer including an optical sensor mounted to an HSYNC sensor card 124 for receiving a scanned light beam from a “start-of-scan” mirror 122. The reference of Clarke et al. does not disclose a scanning unit operating such that a sensor detects a light beam at both a start-of-scan location and at an end-of-scan location as the light beam travels along a scan path.

Claim 1, as amended with this paper, recites a sensor for detecting a light beam at a start-of-scan location and an end-of-scan location spaced from the start-of-scan location along the scan path. Accordingly, the present invention comprises a start-of-scan location and an end-of-scan location that are in spaced relation along the scan path, in contrast to the single start-of-scan location disclosed by Clarke et al.

In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-21 define patentably over the prior art.

If the present amendment raises any questions or the Examiner believes that an interview would facilitate prosecution of the present application, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

By Michael D. Folkerts
Michael D. Folkerts
Registration No. 33,348

7019 Corporate Way
Dayton, OH 45459-4238
Telephone: (937) 438-6848
Facsimile: (937) 438-2124
E-mail: mfolkerts@sspatlaw.net